



File No. 0735-10-DR133
0760-95-CY029

Information Item

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

VIA: DAVID R. GARCIA, CITY MANAGER

FROM: SCOTT TULLOCH, CITY ENGINEER

DATE: JULY 24, 2007

SUBJECT: ROAD CLOSURES OF EMERSON STREET BETWEEN ELM AVENUE AND THIRD AVENUE FROM JULY 25, 2007 TO OCTOBER 26, 2007 (FROM 7:30 A.M. TO 3:30 P.M.) FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A NEW 42" RCP STORM DRAIN AND STREET RECONSTRUCTION.

During the week of July 23, 2007, Ms. Lisa Craig, Project Manager for Burtech Pipeline Inc. a General Engineering Contractor, submitted traffic control plans requesting several street closures of Emerson Street between Elm Avenue and Third Avenue for the purpose of installing new storm drain facilities at this location and the reconstruction of said street. This is a portion of a much larger project, but because of the narrow roadway conditions on Emerson Street, it is the only section that will require complete road closures. In order to expedite the installation of these improvements and minimize the overall impact to the public, staff and the contractor propose to phase the closures on Emerson Street between July 25, 2007 and October 26, 2007. The phases of closures will range from a partial closure (one lane opened in one direction) to a complete closure (no through traffic). These closures are necessary in order to install a new storm drain line under Emerson Street and for the reconstruction of the pavement once the storm drain installation is completed.

The City Council originally approved this project during the July 10, 2007 City Council Meeting. The closure of Emerson Street was anticipated during the design phase of the project, was described in the Project Specifications, and was included in the contractor's construction schedule for this project. Because the project utilizes grant funding with an expiration date of October 31, 2007, the construction schedule has been expedited, along with the need for the road closures as soon as possible. However, it should be noted the project may be completed in a shorter time frame than is being presented, and the contractor will only be allowed to close one of the segments along Emerson Street at a time. This project follows Emerson Street, starting at Elm Avenue, crosses Second Avenue, Twin Oaks Avenue, Del Mar Avenue, and eventually across Third Avenue, ending just east of Fifth Avenue. Signs will be erected for the duration of the project to inform the general public.

During the closure period, traffic will be detoured as follows:

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Emerson Street: Local traffic will be detoured around each work area using, at various times, Naples Street, Oxford Street, First Avenue, Alpine Avenue, Elm Avenue, Second Avenue, Twin Oaks Avenue, Del Mar Avenue, and Third Avenue as the project moves from east to west. It is important to note that Emerson Street in this area is a small residential street with limited access that terminates at First Avenue to the east and Third Avenue to the west. The low volume of local traffic being detoured will help minimize the impacts of these closures. (See attached plat)

The work across Third Avenue will be done at night from 10:00 PM to 6:00 AM to ensure public safety, minimize traffic congestion, and the impact on the MTS Regional Transit Line bus that runs on Third Avenue. Normal traffic will have complete access to Third Avenue during the day. In this way, businesses as well as morning and evening commuters will not have to compete with the contractor for access on Third Avenue during the day.

Chula Vista Transit and all emergency services will be adequately accommodated during the road closures and notified in advance of the complete closure periods.

The Traffic Engineering Section has preliminarily reviewed the detour plans and is currently working with the contractor on minor modifications. City approved traffic control plans are required prior to the start of the project and Traffic Engineering, with help from Public Works Inspectors, will continue to monitor the traffic throughout the construction period and make any necessary alterations to the plans to ensure public safety and ease of traffic flow during construction. The closures of these streets are similar to those used in the past and these closures have worked well without any major problems.

Advance notification of Emerson Street Storm Drain Improvement and Street Reconstruction (DR133) was conducted during the design phase. Within the contract specification for this project, the contractor is to inform all residents, businesses, and the community at large, of the potential for delay due to construction. The Contractor will notify each affected resident in person forty-eight (48) hours before starting the project and closing of driveways (if any). In addition, for this project, the Contractor shall not be allowed to demolish/excavate an area greater than that which can be replaced that workday to ensure the road is open to the public at the end of each day.

The purpose of this memorandum is to advise the City Council of said closures for Emerson Street in accordance with City Council Policy No. 576-15, which requires that City Council be notified in advance of a request to close streets for major construction.

Due to the deteriorated condition of Emerson Street, numerous residential complaints, and the time restriction on the project funding source, staff has expedited the Contractor's schedule to begin the construction as soon as the City Council has been notified and the necessary City approvals obtained.

Attachment: Vicinity Map

JRN:dmw

cc: Liz Pursell, Public Information Officer
Rick Emerson, Chief of Police
Doug Perry, Fire Chief
Dave Byers, Director of Public Works Operations
Police and Fire Dispatch

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